



YOUR ENERGY CONNECTION



Keeping Cool and Keeping Costs Low

July 2005

As the temperature increases daily, we turn our attention to staying cool or at least as cool as possible. Ensure that your dollars are wisely spent, and your home is at its peak comfort level. By using inexpensive energy efficient measures, you can reduce your home's energy consumption.

Energy Saving Tips

- Have the central air conditioning unit serviced by an HVAC contractor yearly to get the highest efficiency possible
- Keep the thermostat set on 78 degrees or higher
- Caulk and weather-strip all windows and doors
- Use drapes, shutters, awnings, shade trees, and glass with reflective film or solar screens to keep sunlight out in the summer
- Avoid blocking cooling registers and air returns with furniture
- Replace your air return filter at least six times a year
- Use ceiling fans to circulate cool air
- Whole house fans help cool your home by pulling cool air through the house and exhausting warm air through the attic
- Plant trees or shrubs to shade air conditioning units but not to block the airflow. A unit operating in the shade uses as much as 10 percent less electricity than the same one operating in the sun.

BEAT THE PEAK

“Peak” or “Peak Demand” is the greatest amount of electricity used at one time by an electric system, normally when a large number of customers are using appliances at the same time. By controlling the electric load or load management, we can keep electric costs in control. Rocky Mount averages approximately less than 10 days per month load managing. There are several options available:

Electric Water Heater Control-

Water heaters are cycled off during load management periods. Controlling water heaters will not affect the amount of hot water available. Customers receive **\$2.00** credit each month.

Electric Heat Strip Control-

Heat strips are controlled during the winter load management periods, while compressors continue to provide heat. Customers receive **\$15.00** credit each month if the temperature falls to 25 degrees or below on a non-holiday weekday.

Central Air Conditioning Total Control-

Customers receive **\$20.00** credit each month for July, August, and September. The compressor is turned off for the entire load management period. Fans will continue to circulate the cool air in your house, but your compressor will not generate any new cool air.

There are no installation or maintenance charges associated with this program.

**Call 972-1283 for more information .
Start your savings now!**

Emergency Services

Our Automated interactive voice response system has been updated to assist customers more rapidly in reporting power outages, gas leaks, and electric emergencies. During normal business hours, anyone calling 252-972-1278 will be connected to the automated handling system. This system is designed to provide a more efficient way to report problems. This will help us identify problems and repair them in an efficient manner.

City of Rocky Mount tree crews are responsible for trimming tree limbs away from transmission power lines, but who is responsible for the services lines to individual homes? The homeowner is responsible for limbs over and around the lines serving their home. As hurricane season evolves have trees in your yard

What to Do if You Smell Gas



Call the Rocky Mount Gas Department immediately, anytime day or night.

Day 972-1278

Night 972-1414

If you detect a gas leak, we want to know right away. Don't try to locate the problem yourself. If the odor is inside your home or business, an emergency situation could exist, and you should evacuate as a safety measure. Open a window and make sure you use no electrical switches. Extinguish any open flames and evacuate the area.

